

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the original paper Sequence Listing with the attached replacement Sequence Listing.

On page 2, first paragraph, please replace the current paragraph with the paragraph listed below:

Of all the indirect function tests, the identification of Elastase 1 is the test with the highest sensitivity and specificity (Löser,C., Therapie & Erfolg 1997; 1:411-413). It has become established in daily practice as the standard test for exocrine pancreas function diagnostics. The basis for this test consists of polyclonal antibodies against Elastase 1 (Elastase 1-RIA, Abbott) or mono- and/or polyclonal anti-Elastase-1 antibodies, which are obtained by immunisation with an antigen containing the amino-acid sequence Thr-Met-Val-Ala-Gly-Gly Asp-Ile-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 1) or immunologically effective partial peptides of this. (EP 0 547 059 B1).

On page 4, second paragraph, please replace the current paragraph with the paragraph listed below:

It was shown that antibodies against the peptides A-V-K-E-G-P-E-Q-V-I-P-I-N (SEQ ID NO: 2), Y-T-N-G-P-L-P-D-K-L-Q-Q-A-R (SEQ ID NO: 3), R-S-G-C-N-G-D-S-G-G-P-L-N (SEQ ID NO: 4), G-P-L-N-C-P-T-E-D-G-G-W-Q (SEQ ID NO: 5), G-T-E-A-G-R-N-S-W-P-S-Q-I (SEQ ID NO: 6), H-N-L-S-Q-N-D-G-T-E-Q-Y-V (SEQ ID NO: 7), W-

G-K-T-K-T-N-G-Q-L-A (SEQ ID NO: 8), V-S-S-R-G-C-N-V-S-R-K-P-T (SEQ ID NO: 9), G-G-E-E-A-R-P-N-S-W-P-W-Q (SEQ ID NO: 10), S-S-S-R-T-Y-R-V-G-L-G-R-H-N (SEQ ID NO: 11), K-D-W-N-S-N-Q-I-S-K-G-N-D (SEQ ID NO: 12), G-P-L-N-C-Q-A-S-D-G-R-W (SEQ ID NO: 13), G-A-L-P-D-D-L-K-Q-G-R-L (SEQ ID NO: 14), S-L-Q-Y-E-K-S-G-S-F-Y (SEQ ID NO 15), F-G-C-N-T-R-R-K-P-T-V-F-T (SEQ ID NO: 16) react highly specifically with the iso-forms of the pancreas elastase and do not react unspecifically with other stool components.

On page 5, third paragraph, please replace the current paragraph with the paragraph listed below:

The DNA-sequence for human elastase 1 (JP 1987000276-A/6) was transferred to the amino-acid sequences. With the aid of common protein structure programmes, it was possible to identify several amino-acid sequences that displayed a potential epitope structure. It was shown that antibodies against the peptides A-V-K-E-G-P-E-Q-V-I-P-I-N (SEQ ID NO: 2), Y-T-N-G-P-L-P-D-K-L-Q-Q-A-R (SEQ ID NO: 3), R-S-G-C-N-G-D-S-G-G-P-L-N (SEQ ID NO: 4) and G-P-L-N-C-P-T-E-D-G-G-W-Q (SEQ ID NO: 5) bind elastase 1 highly specifically and do not react unspecifically with other stool components.

On page 7, second paragraph, please replace the current paragraph with the paragraph listed below:

Using the fixed-phase synthesis according to Merrifield, peptides with the amino-acid sequences NH₂-A-V-K-E-G-P-E-Q-V-I-P-I-N-COOH (SEQ ID NO: 2), NH₂-Y-T-N-G-P-L-P-D-K-L-Q-Q-A-R-COOH (SEQ ID NO: 3), NH₂-R-S-G-C-N-G-D-S-G-G-P-L-N-COOH (SEQ ID NO: 4) and NH₂-G-P-L-N-C-P-T-E-D-G-G-W-Q-COOH (SEQ ID NO: 5) were synthesised. By means of familiar procedures, the peptides are coupled with common limpet haemocyanine (KLH) -(1 mg peptide/mg KLH). In each case, 300 µg of this conjugate with the addition of a Freund adjuvant are used for the immunisation of a rabbit or a chicken. After three vaccinations, the animals are bled. After the serum is obtained, the specificity of the anti-serum is tested in an ELISA. For this purpose free peptide is adsorbed on to the surface of the cavities of microtitre plates. After the incubation of the cavities with the antisera, they are thoroughly washed. Antigen-antibody reactions are detected in the usual way using an anti-rabbit or anti-chicken POD conjugate and TMB as a substrate. Every antiserum reacts only with the homologous peptide.

On page 9, second paragraph, please replace the current paragraph with the paragraph listed below:

Using fixed-phase synthesis according to Merrifield, the peptides are synthesised with the amino-acid sequences A-V-K-E-G-P-E-Q-V-I-P-I-N (SEQ ID NO: 2), Y-T-N-G-P-L-P-D-K-L-Q-Q-A-R (SEQ ID NO: 3), R-S-G-C-N-G-D-S-G-G-P-L-N (SEQ ID NO: 4), G-P-L-N-C-P-T-E-D-G-G-W-Q (SEQ ID NO: 5), G-T-E-A-G-R-N-S-W-P-S-Q-I (SEQ ID NO: 6), H-N-L-S-Q-N-D-G-T-E-Q-Y-V (SEQ ID NO: 7), W-G-K-T-K-T-N-G-Q-L-A

(SEQ ID NO: 8), V-S-S-R-G-C-N-V-S-R-K-P-T (SEQ ID NO: 9), G-G-E-E-A-R-P-N-S-W-P-W-Q (SEQ ID NO: 10), S-S-S-R-T-Y-R-V-G-L-G-R-H-N (SEQ ID NO: 11), K-D-W-N-S-N-Q-I-S-K-G-N-D (SEQ ID NO: 12), G-P-L-N-C-Q-A-S-D-G-R-W (SEQ ID NO: 13), G-A-L-P-D-D-L-K-Q-G-R-L (SEQ ID NO: 14), S-L-Q-Y-E-K-S-G-S-F-Y (SEQ ID NO: 15), F-G-C-N-T-R-R-K-P-T-V-F-T (SEQ ID NO: 16). The peptides are coupled to common limpet haemocyanine (KLH) using the familiar procedure (1 mg peptide/mg KLH). In each case 300 µl of this conjugate with the addition of a Freund adjuvant are used for the immunisation of a rabbit or a chicken. After three vaccinations, the animals are bled. After obtaining the antibodies (purification via a protein A pillar or by fractional precipitation), their specificity is tested in an ELISA. For this purpose free peptide is adsorbed on to the surface of the cavities of microtiter plates. After the incubation of the cavities with the homologous or heterologous antibodies, the cavities are thoroughly cleaned. The antigen-antibody reactions are detected in the usual way using anti-rabbit or anti-chicken POD conjugates. Every antibody reacts only with the homologous peptide.